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and rhizome, endodermis, and epidermis. The microchemical reactions for each of these layers are given. A process called "metacutinization" is described, which involves all the outer cells of a root-tip, and occurs at the end of the growing season. Four stages in the development of the endodermis are distinguished, following KROEMER, viz., embryonic, primary (characterized by presence of CASPARY'S points), secondary, and tertiary (showing suberization and lignification of a large part of the wall). The endodermis of the root does not usually pass through more than the first two stages. The writer brings together the information available concerning the presence or absence of an endodermis in monocotyledonous stems, and a survey of the tables shows that in about 60 per cent of the species an endodermis is present in the underground stem, while only in *Medeola* and *Scindapsis* has an endodermis been reported for the aerial stem. The relation of the starch sheath of aerial stems to the endodermis of rhizomes was also studied, and the writer failed to establish an actual continuity between the two layers. The function of the endodermis is said to be the transfer of water and food between the central cylinder and the cortex, and the increasing cutinization is associated with the necessity for checking the movement of solutes in the radial direction.—M. A. CHRYSLER.

Items of taxonomic interest.—H. D. HOUSE (*Muhlenbergia* 1: 127-131. 1906) publishes several changes in the nomenclature of Orchidaceae, and describes a new Californian species of *Dichondra*.—A. A. HELLER (*idem* 134) publishes a new Californian species of *Ribes*.—Under the editorship of IGN. URBAN (*Engler's Bot. Jahrb.* 37: 373-462. *pl.* 9. 1906) a fascicle of 18 contributions describing new Andean plants has been published, among which the following new genera appear: *Orchidotypus* (Orchidaceae), by F. KRÄNZLIN; *Laccopetalum* (Ranunculaceae), by E. ULBRICH; *Belonanthus* and *Stangea* (Valerianaceae), by P. GRAEBNER, who gives a general synopsis of the family.—R. PILGER (*idem*, *Beiblatt* 85, pp. 58-67) describes a new genus (*Lamprothyrus*) of South American grasses near *Danthonia*.—S. LEM. MOORE (*Jour. Botany* 44: 145-154. 1906) has described 2 new genera from Madagascar: *Cloiselia* (Compositae) and *Stenandriopsis* (Acanthaceae).—R. M. HARPER (*Bull. Torr. Bot. Club* 33: 229-245. 1906) has described new species from the coastal plain of Georgia under *Sporobolus* and *Nymphaea*.—W. H. BLANCHARD (*Rhodora* 8: 95-98. 1906) has described two new species of *Rubus* from New England, both of them high blackberries.—A. ZAHLBRUCKNER (*Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesell.* 24: 141-146. *pl.* 10. 1906) has described a new genus (*Lindauopsis*) of parasites in the hymenium of lichens.—R. SCHLECHTER (*Bot. Jahrb.* 39: 161-274. *figs.* 13-23. 1906), in completing his account of New Caledonian plants, describes the following new genera: *Menepetalum* (Celastraceae), *Acropogon* (Sterculiaceae), *Memecylantus* and *Pachydiscus* (Caprifoliaceae).—J. M. C.

Double fertilization in *Carpinus*.—In 1893 Miss BENSON published her first paper on the embryology of the Amentiferae. This is now followed by a second